

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claim 1 so as to read as follows:

1. (Amended) In an assembly having a bucket tooth attached to a bucket lip via a fastening bolt, said bucket tooth comprising axial force fluctuation absorbing means for absorbing fluctuations in axial force of said fastening bolt after attaching said bucket tooth to said bucket lip.

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended in order to more particularly point out, and distinctly claim the subject matter to which the applicants regard as their invention. The applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added. It is believed that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated March 26, 2002.

Claims 1 - 6 are presently being examined. Claims 7 - 15 are non-elected claims of a restriction requirement.

The Examiner requests that Figures 23 (a1) through 23(d2), 24(a), and 24(b) should be designated as "Prior Art". Accordingly, the applicants respectfully submit herewith a Request for